

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Pending Claims

Claims 1-6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A package comprising a receptacle having a mouth at an upper end, a closed plastic zipper attached to said mouth, and a slider mounted to said zipper, wherein said zipper comprises first and second interlocked profiled structures having an interstice therebetween, and a pliable membrane connected to said first and second interlocked profiled structure and not forming structures ~~to form~~ a tamper-evident seal across said mouth, at least part of said membrane being located in and having a profile conformed to said interstice, and said slider does not have a separating finger for separating said first and second profiled structures.

Claim 8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Original): The package as recited in claim 7, wherein said zipper further comprises first and second flanges respectively connected to said first and second profiled structures, and said receptacle comprises first and second walls respectively attached to said first and second flanges.

Claim 10 (Original): The package as recited in claim 7, wherein said first profiled structure has a male profile and said second profiled structure has a female profile shaped to receive said male profile.

Claims 11-18 (Canceled).

Claim 19 (New): The package as recited in claim 7, wherein said zipper comprises first and second stomped portions that form respective slider end stops at opposite ends of said zipper, and said membrane comprises first and second end portions respectively blended into said first and

second stomped portions, and an intermediate portion disposed between said first and second end portions and comprising a free edge.

Claim 20 (New): The package as recited in claim 19, wherein said free edge is disposed on the product side of said zipper and inside an interior volume of said receptacle.

Claim 21 (New): The package as recited in claim 19, wherein said first interlocked profiled structure comprises a groove and said membrane is connected to said first interlocked profiled structure along a line located above said groove.

Claim 22 (New): A package comprising:

a receptacle having a mouth at an upper end, said receptacle comprising first and second walls joined together at first and second side seals;

a zipper comprising first and second stomped end portions and first and second interlockable profiled structures respectively extending from said first stomped end portion to said second stomped end portion, said first and second interlockable profiled structures having an interstice therebetween when in an interlocked state;

a slider mounted to said zipper for opening and closing said zipper when moved in opposite directions, said slider having no separating finger, and travel of said slider along said zipper being stopped at either end of said zipper by abutment with said first and second stomped end portions respectively; and

a pliable membrane connected along a portion of its length to said first interlocked profiled structure and connected near its ends to said first and second stomped end portions, but not forming a tamper-evident seal across said

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mouth, said membrane having a free edge along a portion of its length and having a pliability and a gauge that allow a portion of said membrane disposed between said free edge and the connection to said first interlocked profiled structure to fit in and conform to the shape of said interstice when said zipper is closed.

Claim 23 (New): The package as recited in claim 22, wherein said free edge is disposed on the product side of said zipper and inside an interior volume of said receptacle.

Claim 24 (New): The package as recited in claim 22, wherein said first interlocked profiled structure comprises a groove and said membrane is connected to said first interlocked profiled structure along a line located above said groove.

Claim 25 (New): The package as recited in claim 22, wherein said zipper further comprises first and second flanges respectively connected to said first and second profiled structures, and said receptacle comprises first and second walls respectively attached to said first and second flanges.

Claim 26 (New): The package as recited in claim 22, wherein said first profiled structure has a male profile and said second profiled structure has a female profile shaped to receive said male profile.

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